CLAIMS

1. A polarizing plate comprising a polarizer and a protective film laminated on one side or both sides of the polarizer:

wherein the polarizer comprises a film having a structure having a minute domain dispersed in a matrix formed of a translucent water-soluble resin including an iodine light absorbing material, and;

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wherein the protective film satisfies an in-plane retardation, which is expressed by Re = $(nx - ny) \times d$, of 20 nm or less, and a thickness direction retardation, which is expressed by Rth = $\{(nx + ny) / 2 - nz\} \times d$, of 30 nm or less,

where the direction along with the refractive index in the film plane is maximum is defined as the X-axis, a direction perpendicular to the X-axis as the Y-axis, the thickness direction of the film as the Z-axis, and where refractive indices in each axial direction are defined as nx, ny, and nz, respectively, and the thickness of the film as d (nm).

- 2. The polarizing plate according to Claim 1, wherein the minute domain of the polarizer is formed of an oriented birefringent material.
- 3. The polarizing plate according to Claim 2, wherein the birefringent material shows liquid crystalline at least in orientation processing step.
- 4. The polarizing plate according to Claim 2 or 3, wherein the minute domain of the polarizer has 0.02 or more of birefringence.
- 5. The polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 2 to 4, wherein in a refractive index difference between the birefringent material forming the minute domain of the polarizer

and the translucent water-soluble resin in each optical axis direction,

a refractive index difference (Δn^1) in direction of axis showing a maximum is 0.03 or more, and

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a refractive index difference (Δn^2) between the Δn^1 direction and a direction of axes of two directions perpendicular to the Δn^1 direction is 50% or less of the Δn^1 .

- 6. The polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 5, wherein an absorption axis of the iodine light absorbing material of the polarizer is oriented in the Δn^1 direction.
- 7. The polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein the film used as the polarizer is manufactured by stretching.
- 8. The polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, wherein the minute domain of the polarizer has a length of 0.05 to 500 μm in the Δn^2 direction.
- 9. The polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, wherein an iodine light absorbing material of the polarizer has an absorbing band at least in a band of 400 to 700 nm wavelength range.
- 10. The polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 9,

the protective film comprise at least one selected from the group of a resin compound that contains a thermoplastic resin (A) having substituted and/or non-substituted imide group in a side chain and a thermoplastic resin (B) having substituted and/or non-substituted phenyl group and nitrile group in a side chain, and a norbornene-based resin.

11. The polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 10, wherein a transmittance to a linearly polarized light in a

transmission direction is 80% or more,

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- a haze value is 5% or less, and
- a haze value to a linearly polarized light in an absorption direction is 30% or more.
- 12. An optical film comprising at least one of the polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 11.
- 13. An image display comprising the polarizing plate according to any one of Claims 1 to 11 or the optical film according to Claim 12.